

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A recording and/or reproducing apparatus that manages defect management in a recording medium, comprising:
 - a pick-up to record and/or reproduce information representing replacement or non-replacement of a defective unit of the recording medium, which occurs after initialization of the recording medium;
 - a controller to determine whether the defective unit will be left unreplaced by a replacement unit in a spare area of the recording medium according to the information representing replacement or non-replacement of the defective unit.
2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the information representing replacement or non-replacement of the defective unit includes positions of the defective unit and the replacement unit.
3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the information representing replacement or non-replacement of the defective unit includes positions of defective units and corresponding replacement units.
4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the information representing replacement or non-replacement indicates a plurality of defect management modes, and is recorded in a reserved area of a disc definition structure (DDS) of the recording medium.
5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the information further comprises a start sector number of the defective unit and a start sector number of the replacement unit in the SDL.
6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the recording of the information further comprises leaving only a start sector number of the defective unit in a secondary defect list (SDL), storing information representing that the defective unit has not been replaced in a Forced Re-Assignment Marking (FRM) bit of the SDL indicating whether the defective unit has been replaced, and storing information representing that the defective unit has not been replaced in a start sector number of the replacement unit in the SDL.

8. A recording and/or reproducing apparatus that manages defect management in a recording medium, comprising:

a pick-up to record and/or reproduce information representing replacement or non-replacement of a defective unit of the recording medium;

a controller to determine whether the defective unit will be left unreplaced by a replacement unit in a spare area of the recording medium according to the information representing replacement or non-replacement of defective unit.

9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the information representing replacement and/or non-replacement of the defective unit includes positions of the defective unit and the replacement unit.